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FIRE AND SAFETY SURVEY

AREA INSPECTED : OSA Classified Facility

[REDACTED]

25X1A

DATES OF INSPECTION: 14-18 April 1972

INSPECTED BY : [REDACTED] Safety Officer

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ACCOMPANIED BY : [REDACTED] Ground Safety  
Officer, Major, U. S. A. F.

25X1A

[REDACTED] Flight Safety Officer  
Major, U. S. A. F.

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GENERAL

1. The North Base facilities, listed in the attachment, include four hangars, administration building, motor pool, cafeteria, gymnasium, guardhouse, warehouse, and related buildings. [REDACTED]

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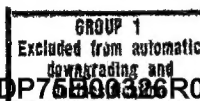
[REDACTED] are assigned to the North Base. The motor vehicle fleet includes a total of sixty (60) motor vehicles.

2. An excellent safety and fire prevention program is in effect at the Base. The Deputy Base Security Officer is designated as the Base Safety Officer. Two U. S. Air Force Officers, [REDACTED] are designated as Flight and Ground Safety Officers. A safety meeting is normally held the first Monday of each month and is attended by the Commanding Officer, Deputy Commanding Officer, Safety Personnel, and all Directors (Communications, Support, Security, Materiel, Life Support, and Operations).

25X1A

USAF review(s) completed.

**SECRET**



**SECRET**

3. The fire and safety inspection covered the entire Base, buildings, work areas, closets, cabinets, fuel storage and handling, medical facilities, ambulance, etc. Each emergency battery lantern was tested to ensure it is operating properly, and each fire extinguisher was inspected as to its condition and inspection date. The safety inspection did not include any aspect of flight safety, i.e., operational or support aircraft, pilots, or flight equipment. The Deputy Commanding Officer presented an excellent briefing to the Headquarters Safety Officer concerning the North Base facilities, operations, and aircraft. The last fire and safety inspection of the Base conducted by Headquarters Safety Staff personnel was during the period 2-4 March 1970.

4. The Base has a standard U. S. Air Force Dodge ambulance with four-wheel drive. It is completely equipped and contains additional equipment such as axes, bolt cutters, and extra litters. Its normal capacity is four patients with space for an additional person on the floor if necessary. A doctor or medical technician stand by in the ambulance at the airstrip for each arrival and departure of the operational aircraft, and stand by in the compound for support aircraft. A 1971 Ford station wagon modified to accommodate a litter, and other equipment as required, is available as a backstop ambulance. It is equipped with a two-way radio, and has a double emergency light rack for installation on top of the vehicle. Its intended use is for the transportation of patients to distant destinations. Two doctors and two medical technicians, members of the U. S. Air Force, are assigned to the Base.

5. Fire-fighting equipment includes an 011B crash truck, a 750 gpm pumper truck, a 1,000-gallon tanker truck, and a P6 rescue vehicle. The 011B crash truck manned by four men is used for stand-by during each take-off and landing of the larger aircraft. The P6 rescue vehicle is used for smaller aircraft. Six professional firemen are on duty at all times at the North Base Fire Department. Fifty-pound and seventy-five-pound CO<sub>2</sub>

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

fire extinguishers on wheels are located throughout the North Base. A 500,000-gallon water tank provides water for the deluge systems in the hangars.

6. The telephone number (117) for the Main Base Fire Department is affixed to the telephones. Each fire alarm is reported to the Main Base Fire Department which, in turn, alerts the North Base fire personnel via direct line. North Base fire personnel respond with fire-fighting equipment, and back-up equipment is also immediately dispatched from the Main Base Fire Department. All telephone calls to extension 117 are also monitored by the Base Telephone Operator. Guards conduct after-hour fire and security patrols.

#### OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The fire extinguishers are inspected annually by personnel of the Main Base Fire Department. The extinguishers, in turn, are stenciled as to the next date of inspection. Safety codes state that each fire extinguisher will be inspected at least annually and will have a tag indicating the inspection or recharge date and initials of the person making the inspection.

a. Tags are impracticable at this Base due to the number of extinguishers located outside of the buildings. However, to comply with the codes, it is recommended that the actual date of the inspection be stamped on the extinguishers rather than the date the next inspection is due. Under the present system there is no way of determining when the extinguisher was last tested.

b. Several outside extinguishers were observed with defective hoses or nozzle holders. It is recommended that a separate list be maintained of all extinguishers located outside of the buildings, and that these extinguishers be inspected semiannually.

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

2. Administration Building 4506 contains offices of administrative and operational personnel, and such areas as the comcenter, command post, pilots' lounge and locker room, supply room, reproduction room, and vault. Twin beam emergency battery lanterns installed on wall brackets in the comcenter, operations center, and command post were tested and operated satisfactorily.

a. The bracket for the 15 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher in the comcenter is pulled loose from the wall and should be reinstalled.

b. A 5 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher should be mounted on a wall bracket adjacent to the door in the command post for ready use in the event of a fire involving the electrical equipment.

c. Personnel at the console board in the operations center utilize a small amount of xylene for cleaning recorder heads. It is contained in a 1/2-pint glass bottle. A safety can should be procured for the xylene.

d. A 5 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher should be mounted on a wall bracket adjacent to the door in the operations center for ready use in the event of a fire involving the electrical equipment.

e. The office for weather personnel contains two desks with two telephone cords running across approximately four feet of space creating a tripping hazard. A small table should be provided near the wall for each telephone, or the cord should be lengthened and placed beneath floor molding.

f. The office for operational flight training personnel contains a 15 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

mounted on a wall bracket which was installed apparently for protection for a prior occupancy. The extinguisher should be removed from the room and installed in one of the two reproduction rooms where a 5 lb CO<sub>2</sub> extinguisher is presently located. It should be located or signs placed so that its location can be seen from both of the reproduction rooms.

3. The gymnasium, building 4493, contains an exercise equipment room, sauna room, steamroom, handball court, massager, whirlpool bath, and tables for heat and ray light. Instructions for use of the equipment are prominently posted, and eyeglasses are provided for heat and ray lights. A twin beam emergency battery lantern, mounted on a wall bracket, was tested and operated satisfactorily.

a. The electrical cord for the massager should be replaced with one that provides a safe male grounding connection, to prevent the massager from becoming energized with resulting shock to the user in the event of a short circuit in the massager's electrical system.

b. A 5 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher should be mounted on a wall bracket near the doorway inside the boiler room.

4. The guard tower, building 4508, is of sound construction and has strong steps and handrails. No safety hazards were observed.

5. The cafeteria, building 4463, contains a dining room, rest-rooms, and a kitchen. The kitchen is equipped with an electric stove, grille, deep fry, and sinks. The two exhausts in the kitchen for the grille and the deep fry are free of accumulated grease deposits. Double doors, equipped with panic

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

hardware, in the rear of the dining room provide emergency exit. An illuminated exit sign designates the exit.

a. A 15 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher is free standing between the refrigerator and cabinet. It should be mounted on a wall bracket in the hallway at the rear of the kitchen to reduce the falling hazard and ensure its availability in event of a fire.

b. The 2 1/2 gallon water-type fire extinguisher located in the hallway and the relocated CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher should have a sign affixed to or above each of them to indicate the types of fires for which they should be used.

6. The fuel laboratory, building 4515, is a cinder-block structure equipped with explosion-proof electrical fixtures, sink with exhaust hood, a first-aid kit mounted on a wall bracket, and a properly mounted 15 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher. The door is equipped with panic hardware. No safety hazards were observed inside of the laboratory.

a. Approximately seventeen 5-gallon cans of propanol, technical grade B, and three 5-gallon cans of acetone are stored in the open against the outside of the building. These should be removed to the flammable liquid storage building.

b. A tank, buried approximately eighteen feet from the building, is used for drainage, primarily water, from the sinks within the building. A vent pipe and handcrank pump are located above the ground. A barrier should be installed around the vent pipe and crank to prevent or reduce the chances of their being struck by a motor vehicle.

7. Liquid oxygen tanks with wheels chocked are located on the cement slab within the compound. Each tank is equipped

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

with a metal cover to protect it from direct rays of the sun. All tanks are grounded and marked "LIQUID OXYGEN - NO SMOKING WITHIN 50 FEET." A portable carrier with twelve tanks of oxygen is also located on the slab. No safety hazards were observed.

8. The guard traffic check house, building 4490, has a 5 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher free standing. The extinguisher should be mounted on a wall bracket to reduce the falling hazard and to ensure it is readily available.

9. The guard traffic check house, building 4495, has a 5 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher free standing. The extinguisher should be mounted on a wall bracket to reduce the falling hazard and to ensure it is readily available.

10. The security building 4496 contains the badge office, plant protection office, and an incinerator room with a Model 2 incinerator. A 2 1/2 gallon water-type fire extinguisher is located on a wall bracket outside of the doorway of the incinerator room. Two twin beam emergency battery lanterns mounted on wall brackets were tested and operated satisfactorily. No safety hazards were observed.

11. The water tank has a wire from a pipe on one side of the access ladder across the ladder to a pipe on the opposite side. The wire creates a falling hazard and should be removed.

12. Building 4507 is a cinder-block structure partitioned with cinder-block walls into storage areas for (1) flammable liquids, (2) oil, (3) empty nitrogen and oxygen cylinders, and (4) full nitrogen and oxygen cylinders. Each area has a vent in the ceiling.

a. The room for flammable liquids is stenciled "PAINT AND THINNER ONLY." It contains 5-gallon cans of toluene, turpentine, propanol, paint stripper alcohol, 1-gallon cans

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

of paint, other flammable liquids, and a 1-gallon jug of chromic acid.

(1) The room should be labeled as a flammable liquid storage area with "NO SMOKING" indicators.

(2) The chromic acid is not compatible for storage with flammable liquids, and should be removed from the area.

(3) A fresh air intake vent should be installed at the floor level to permit gravity exhaust, and provide for complete exchange of air at least six times an hour.

b. The room stenciled "OIL" contains cans of oil on metal shelves and has plenty of extra space.

(1) A fresh air intake vent should be installed at the floor level to provide adequate ventilation.

(2) This area may also be used for flammable liquid storage provided it is labeled accordingly.

c. The area for storage of empty nitrogen and oxygen cylinders has a pallet full (25) of empty nitrogen cylinders and a pallet full (25) of empty oxygen cylinders. Ten additional empty oxygen cylinders are free standing. A sign "WHEN PALLET IS LOADED NOTIFY SUPPLY" is posted in the area.

(1) A fresh air intake vent should be installed at the floor level to provide adequate ventilation.

**SECRET**



**SECRET**

(2) A pallet should be provided for the free standing cylinders to reduce the falling hazard.

(3) "NO SMOKING" should be stenciled on the door.

d. The area for storage of full nitrogen and oxygen cylinders has a pallet full (25) of nitrogen cylinders, a pallet full (25) of oxygen cylinders, and another pallet with twenty oxygen cylinders. All are properly secured and capped.

(1) A fresh air intake vent should be installed at the floor level to provide adequate ventilation.

(2) One cylinder is free standing without a cap and with a sign "DANGER - DO NOT HANDLE THIS CYLINDER UNTIL CAP IS FOUND." The cylinder should be secured to reduce the falling and flying missile hazard.

e. Metal racks are installed at the rear of the building for 55-gallon drums of paint thinner, methyl ethyl ketone, trichloroethylene, hydraulic fluid, and cleaning solvent. One 55-gallon drum is not labeled as to its contents, but is tagged "SEE MORELOCK - DO NOT OPEN." Each drum is bonded together and, in turn, to the metal rack. The drums contain self-closing spigots.

(1) "NO SMOKING" in large letters should be posted in the area of the drums.

(2) The unidentified contents of the 55-gallon drum should be determined and

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

the drum labeled accordingly. The contents of each drum should be clearly labeled on the drum.

(3) The drums should be out of the direct rays of the sun. A cover similar to the one constructed for the drums at the motor pool would be sufficient.

(4) A method should be provided for bonding each drum to the container into which the liquid is dispensed. One such method would be the installation of a sheet of metal on which to set the dispensing cans. The metal, to be bonded to the metal frame, would provide a ground whenever the dispensing cans are set on it.

13. The fuel tank farm is located in the east end of the compound, and access to the area is controlled by a guard control post. There are three 15,000-gallon and three 25,000-gallon storage tanks of JPTS fuel. The next inspections due are 11 June 1972 for the 15,000-gallon tank, 15 August 1972 and 15 October 1972 for the 25,000-gallon tanks. All tanks are bonded together and have two heavy ground wires. A deluge shower installed near the tanks was tested and operated satisfactorily. A vent for each tank extends upward approximately eight feet. The area of the tanks is clear of any other vehicles, equipment, or supplies.

The catwalk between and over tanks four and five is very unstable. It should have wooden braces to each tank similar to those on the other catwalk and tanks.

14. The communications transmitter site, building 4444, is a cinder-block structure and remains locked when not in use. It is equipped with two 15 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguishers (next

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

inspection due August 1972) and two twin beam emergency battery lanterns. The lanterns were tested and operated satisfactorily. An emergency exit door, equipped with panic hardware, is located in the rear of the building.

a. One of the twin beam emergency battery lanterns is located on top of the refrigerator. It should be mounted on a wall bracket above the refrigerator.

b. A Universal resuscitator is located on a bracket in the area. A sign "DO NOT USE" is located above the resuscitator; however, the sign apparently is in the area for use on out-of-service equipment. If so, the sign should be relocated.

15. Four 5,000-gallon fuel trucks of JPTS fuel for the operational aircraft are parked on an isolated asphalt slab within the fuel storage area. The tank of each truck is grounded, and each truck has its emergency brake set and its wheels chocked. Each truck has two 15 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguishers mounted on brackets, and each extinguisher bears a current inspection stamp. Two of the trucks, 59L584 and 62L335, have "FLAMMABLE - NO SMOKING WITHIN 50 FEET" stenciled on both sides and the backs of the vehicles.

Trucks 59L482 and 62L684 now have "FLAMMABLE - NO SMOKING WITHIN 50 FEET" on sides or backs of the trucks. Each of the trucks should have identical markings on both the sides and the back of each truck, i.e., "FLAMMABLE - NO SMOKING WITHIN 50 FEET."

16. The refueling process of an operational aircraft was observed. The fuel truck tank was grounded, the airplane was grounded, and the fuel hose nozzle was grounded to the airplane. An employee remained at the truck and on each wing during the

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

refueling. Two 15 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguishers were on the truck and one on the jeep nearby. A 50 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher on a portable rig remained approximately 100 feet away. The entire process was carefully executed.

The 50 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher should be rolled in the vicinity of the fuel truck during refueling operations so that it will be immediately available for use on an incipient fire.

17. There are four hangars, two of which are not in regular use. Each hangar is equipped with a deluge sprinkler system, CO<sub>2</sub> and 2 1/2 gallon water-type fire extinguishers mounted on wall brackets located throughout the building, standpipes equipped with 50 feet of 1 1/2-inch hose, "NO SMOKING" signs posted in appropriate areas, twin beam emergency battery lanterns, and manual fire alarm boxes. The sprinkler control valves are properly marked. The emergency battery lanterns were tested and operated satisfactorily. Several 50 lb and 75 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguishers on portable carriers are located outside of the hangars.

Signs "FIRE ALARM BOX" should be posted above the manual fire alarm boxes so they can be readily located. At present the boxes are painted red, the same as the extinguishers and areas of the standpipes, and it is difficult to immediately locate the alarm boxes.

18. Hangar 1, building 4505, is utilized for the operational aircraft and contains offices for administrative personnel as well as workshops such as machine shop, battery shop, electric shop, photography laboratory, storage areas, medical, etc. The entire area was carefully inspected during normal work hours of the personnel.

a. Machine Shop

(1) The two floor grinders should be secured to reduce the hazard to the operators

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

due to movement or vibration of the equipment during its operation.

(2) An improvised floor wire-wheel brush is not equipped with a safety shield. One should be installed to reduce the safety hazard.

(3) The swing saw does not have a guard or return. These should be installed.

(4) Two free standing cylinders of nitrogen should be secured until installed to reduce the falling and flying missile hazard.

(5) A welding area, which is too small and crowded, is partitioned off by a fireproof curtain when in use. When the curtain is open, it hides a 15 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher. A tie-back should be installed for the curtain. Further, extreme care should be used to ensure no combustible materials are in the immediate area as sparks could go over the curtain. Additional recommendations are not being submitted as the Base has plans to construct a new building to house the welding operation.

(6) A metal locker marked "SCREWS, SHEET METAL" contains several dozen cans of aerosol spray; one-gallon cans of acetone, turpentine, toluene, solvent, and trioxylene; and five two-gallon safety cans of solvent, naphtha, toluene, thinner, and one can unmarked. All safety cans have flame arrestor screens.

(a) The one-gallon cans of flammable liquids should be removed to the flammable liquid storage building.

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

(b) Each of the safety cans should be clearly labeled as to its contents.

(c) A flammable liquid safety cabinet should be procured for the storage of the aerosol cans of paint and safety cans of flammable liquids. In the meantime, the present cabinet should be labeled "FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS - NO SMOKING."

(7) Many long metal rods, pipes, and sheets of metal are on racks beneath fluorescent lights. Protective screens should be installed on the fluorescent lights to reduce the cutting and electrical hazards.

b. The main supply area has a roll-up door on each side, protective screens on the electrical lights, metal shelves for storage, metal cans for trash, and a first-aid kit mounted on a wall bracket. The area is extremely well maintained.

(1) "NO SMOKING" is at present painted on the floor where it is only noticeable by individuals entering from inside the building. Large "NO SMOKING" signs should be installed throughout the area.

(2) The work areas and aisles should be painted to ensure they are not used for other purposes.

(3) An employee was observed banding a box without using gloves. Gloves are available, and employees should be instructed to use them to reduce the cutting hazard.

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

(4) A 4,000 lb gasoline forklift and a 2,000 lb battery-operated forklift are utilized in the area. They have protective overhead screens, but are not equipped with fire extinguishers. A 2 1/2 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher should be mounted on a bracket in each forklift. Further, use of gasoline forklifts inside the building should be kept to a minimum, and then, only in well-ventilated areas. Any replacement forklifts should be electrically operated.

(5) Two empty cylinders of nitrogen are free standing near the doorway. They should be secured to reduce the falling hazard.

c. The locker room contains a refrigerator, coffeemaker, and cigarette machine. A 5 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher should be mounted on a wall bracket for use in the event of a fire involving the electrical equipment.

d. The bench sander should be secured to the bench in the aerospace ground equipment repair shop to reduce the danger to the operator due to vibration or movement of the sander during its operation.

e. Three bales of rags, one opened, are stored on a ledge in the main hangar area. These should be removed to a regular storage area to reduce the fire hazard.

f. A windowless cinder-block addition to the west end of the hangar provides space for additional shops, personal equipment, administrative offices, electronics test area, Baker and Delta camera shops, medical facilities, and the life support section. The area is equipped throughout with a combination smoke

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

and heat fire detection (pyroalarm) system with detector heads installed throughout the area. The system is tested annually (last tested in June 1971) by personnel of the 6510th Civil Engineers Squadron, U. S. Air Force, Main Base. Twin beam emergency battery lanterns are mounted on wall brackets in the area. Each was tested and operated satisfactorily. A manual fire alarm box, standpipes with 1 1/2-inch hose, and alarm bells are installed in the corridors. Double metal doors with a sign attached "PLEASE KEEP DOORS CLOSED - A MUST" separate the area from the main hangar. CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguishers are mounted on brackets throughout the area. The safety inspection included the entire area, closets, examination of equipment for proper ground, proper location of emergency lights, and fire extinguishers. Illuminated emergency exit doors are equipped with panic hardware. The area is extremely well maintained.

(1) A twin beam emergency light should be installed in the Baker camera shop. A bracket is on the wall, but the emergency light is missing.

(2) A 15 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher should be mounted on a wall bracket in the Baker camera shop for use in the event of a fire involving the electrical equipment.

(3) Acetone, alcohol, and methyl ethyl ketone in one-gallon plastic jugs are used in the Delta camera area. Safety cans with flame arrestor screens should be procured for these flammable liquids. Each can should be labeled as to its contents.

(4) A 15 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher should be mounted on a wall bracket in the electronics special test area for use in the event of a fire involving the electrical equipment.

**SECRET**



**SECRET**

(5) Four cylinders of oxygen, each with 244 cubic feet, are on a portable container outside of the building, and are connected to pipes which provide oxygen for prebreathing in the lift support section of the building. A "NO SMOKING" sign should be posted on the building above the cylinders.

(6) Two trailers, approximately thirty-five feet long, outside of the building, have been converted into altitude chamber areas. Normal occupancy is two or three individuals.

(a) A 15 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher is free standing at the low pressure chamber. When the chamber is not in use, the extinguisher should be mounted on a wall bracket to reduce the falling hazard.

(b) Two oxygen cylinders on a portable carrier are located outside of the trailer and connected to pipes into the trailer. A "NO SMOKING" sign should be posted in the area of the cylinders.

19. Hangar 2, building 4402, is utilized for support aircraft, and all offices and work areas are utilized. The boiler is in a separate enclosure, and at present, it is not in operation due to repairs.

a. The bench grinder/polisher is not secured. The workrest is not in proper position for use, and no sign is posted to remind operators to use safety glasses.

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

Further, safety glasses are not available. The grinder / polisher should be secured to the bench to reduce the hazard to the operator due to vibration or movement. Safety glasses should be provided in the immediate area, and a sign should be posted to remind the operator to use such glasses. In addition, the workrest should be properly positioned to within 1/8 inch of the wheel.

b. The following hazards should be corrected in the civil engineer's shop:

(1) The floor drill and floor grinder should be secured to the floor to prevent injury to operators as the result of movement or vibration during operation.

(2) The swing table saw has the guard removed and the return missing. These should be replaced.

(3) A 5 lb CO<sub>2</sub> and 15 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher are free standing. They should be mounted on wall brackets to reduce the falling hazard and to ensure their availability in the event of a fire.

(4) A number of large broken panes of glass next to a bin of screws create a serious cutting hazard. This glass should be properly enclosed if it is intended for future use or arrangements made for disposal.

(5) Paper trash is collected in an uncovered metal can. A metal top should be procured for the can to reduce the fire hazard.

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

c. The faceplate is missing from the light switch in the office/storeroom area of the civil engineer. It should be replaced to reduce the electrical hazard.

20. Hangar 2 1/2, building 4401, is not in regular use and is used primarily as a storage area for large items such as a trailer and boat.

a. A 15 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher is free standing at one end of the hangar. It should be mounted on a wall bracket to reduce the falling hazard and to ensure it will be available for immediate use.

b. There is only one room in the building which is not protected by the sprinkler system and is utilized for storage of combustible and noncombustible items. These items should be removed to a room protected by the sprinkler system to reduce the fire hazard to the entire hangar.

c. A 5 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher should be installed in the adjoining compressor room.

d. The adjoining boiler building is very neat and free of any storage. The 15 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher is past due for inspection (inspection due August 1970). It should be inspected to ensure it is in proper operating condition.

e. A one-inch pipe is installed approximately one foot above the ground from the fuel pit to the boiler. The concrete pit is properly covered and vented. The pipe should be installed beneath the ground to reduce the falling hazard and to prevent its obstruction to fire-fighting personnel and equipment in the event of a fire involving the boiler or hangar.

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

21. Hangar 3, building 4305, is not in regular use as a hangar. The only areas used on a regular basis are the pilots' quarters, survival office, and two rooms for the storage and testing of communication equipment.

a. An unused room in the attic, although protected by the sprinkler system, has a quantity of paper trash which should be removed to reduce the fire hazard.

b. At the time of the inspection two pieces of electronic equipment in the communication equipment room were plugged into an electrical outlet, one with a sign "DO NOT TURN EQUIPMENT OFF." A 5 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher should be mounted on a wall bracket for immediate use in the event of a fire involving the electronic equipment.

22. The supply warehouse, building 4400, is a corrugated steel structure utilized for bulk storage of combustible and non-combustible items. "NO SMOKING" signs are properly posted.

a. A 2 1/2 gallon water-type fire extinguisher is free standing at each end of the building. These two extinguishers should be mounted on wall brackets to eliminate the falling hazard and to ensure they are readily available in the event of a fire.

b. At least one 2 1/2 gallon water-type fire extinguisher should be mounted on a bracket located in the center of each side of the building.

c. An open metal drum is utilized for the collection of trash. A metal top should be provided for the drum to reduce the fire hazard.

23. The motor pool maintenance shop, building 4318, was inspected during nonwork hours; therefore, operations within the

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

area were not observed. Trash and soiled cleaning rags are retained in separate marked metal cans with lids.

a. The two gasoline pumps have "NO SMOKING IN THIS AREA" stenciled in small letters on the pumps. "NO SMOKING WITHIN 50 FEET" should be stenciled on both sides of a sign and posted conspicuously in the area of the pumps, preferably between the two pumps.

b. A six-foot stepladder has its rubber treads worn off. These should be replaced to reduce the falling hazard.

c. A 15 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher is installed on each of three room columns. The columns should be painted red or have fire extinguisher signs posted on each side above the height of the vehicles so that the extinguishers may be more readily located.

d. The holding strap on one of the fire extinguishers is broken and should be replaced.

e. A battery charger connected to a forklift was positioned next to a table of combustible material, and the battery charger was not grounded. The battery charger should not be utilized in the immediate vicinity of combustible material due to the fire hazard in the event of an electrical fire in the charger. Further, the electrical cord should be replaced with one that provides a safe male grounding connection to prevent the battery charger from becoming energized with resulting shock to personnel in the event of a short circuit in the charger's electrical system.

f. Five plastic containers of battery sulfuric acid are stored on the workbench with the one being utilized on top. With the exception of the one in use, the containers should be removed to an appropriate storage area.

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

g. An eyewash bottle is located on a column near the battery charger. The bottle was almost empty, and the small plastic tube had a clamp screwed on it with the result that the tube remained closed with the clamp removed. The bottle and tube should be replaced with ones that provide for quick flushing of the eyes during an emergency.

h. The ground plug is broken off the electrical cord of the hand sander. The plug should be replaced with one that provides a safe male grounding connection to prevent the sander from becoming energized with resulting shock to personnel in the event of a short circuit in the sander's electrical system.

i. An open-top metal container, apparently used as a dip tank, is partially filled with a solvent. An approved safety dip tank with a fusible-linked self-closing lid should be procured to reduce the fire hazard.

j. Six 5-gallon GI cans, some with small amounts of gasoline, are located in the building. These should be replaced with the appropriate size flammable liquid safety cans equipped with flame arrestor screens.

k. A metal rack with a corrugated metal cover to protect it from the direct rays of the sun is located approximately sixty feet from the motor pool building. It contains 55-gallon drums of antifreeze, solvent, denatured alcohol and engine cleaner, all with self-closing spigots bonded together and to the metal frame. A "NO SMOKING" sign is also posted.

A method should be provided for bonding each drum to the container into which the liquid is dispensed. One such method would be the installation of a sheet of metal on which to set the dispensing cans.

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

The sheet of metal, to be bonded to the metal frame, would provide a ground whenever the dispensing cans are set on it.

1. A 1,000-gallon tank of diesel fuel affixed to a trailer is located approximately 100 feet from the motor pool. A sign "NO SMOKING WITHIN 50 FEET" is posted. A 15 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher should be mounted on brackets in the immediate area of the tank.

24. Building 4307 is utilized for bulk storage of supplies and equipment, and is constructed of cinder block on two sides with corrugated steel on the top and two ends. It has windows in only the single doors at each end of the building. Double doors equipped with panic hardware are installed in the middle of one side of the building.

a. A 2 1/2 gallon water-base fire extinguisher is free standing at each end of the building. These should be mounted on wall brackets near their present location. Further, at least one more 2 1/2 gallon water-base fire extinguisher should be installed in the middle of each side of the area.

b. The single exit door at one end of the building is padlocked. The padlock should be removed.

c. A twin beam emergency battery lantern should be mounted on a bracket over the double exit doors in the side of the building.

d. Supplies and equipment are stored on both sides of the building with only an aisle in the middle. There should be at least two lanes from the center aisle to each side of the building to reduce the safety hazard involved in handling the crowded materials and to make the area more accessible to fire-fighting personnel in the event of a fire.

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25. Building 4306 contains the boiler for hangar 3. The room is free of combustible materials; however, there are several patches of oil on the floor. Fuel for the boiler is supplied from a concrete pit with cover located approximately ten feet from the building. A one-inch pipe extends from the top of the tank three feet above the ground to the boiler building.

a. A 15 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher should be installed on a wall bracket near the doorway in the building for use in the event of a fire involving the boiler or fuel.

b. The one-inch fuel pipe from the tank to the boiler should be installed beneath the ground. At present it presents a falling hazard and could obstruct fire-fighting personnel and equipment in the event of a fire involving the boiler or hangar.

c. The vent pipe for the fuel tank is blocked with a metal cap. The vent should be reopened.

26. Building 4303 contains a compressor, and a 15 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher is mounted on an outside wall bracket. The nozzle of the extinguisher is upside down which could result in its collecting dust and trash, and the rubber grasping portion of the nozzle is so badly cracked that it should not be used.

The rubber grasping portion of the nozzle should be replaced, and the nozzle should be properly inserted into its holder.

27. The liquid oxygen storage building 4410 is a cinder-block structure with a corrugated steel roof, open on the front, containing three storage tanks of liquid oxygen. It is surrounded by a seven-foot fence with signs posted "NO SMOKING WITHIN 100 FEET" and "KEEP FREE FROM GREASE AND OIL." It is equipped with explosion-proof electrical fixtures and a deluge

**SECRET**



**SECRET**

shower. Each stall for the oxygen tank is equipped with a floor drain. The building and area within the fence are extremely clean, and no safety hazards were observed.

28. The liquid oxygen repair building 4412 is a cinder-block structure divided by a cinder-block wall into repair and parts storage areas. It is equipped with explosion-proof electrical fixtures, "NO SMOKING" signs, and a deluge shower. The liquid oxygen tank on wheels is properly grounded.

a. A 15 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher is free standing in the area. It should be mounted on a wall bracket to reduce the falling hazard and to ensure its being available in the event of a fire.

b. A regular desk lamp has been installed on the desk in the repair shop, and it has an extension cord going through the wall to the storage area. This is not an approved explosion-proof lamp or electrical connection and should be removed from the area.

c. A metal cabinet is utilized in the storage room for 5-gallon cans of alcohol, methyl ethyl ketone (MEK), and cleaning compound for the oxygen system. These liquids should be stored in the flammable storage building.

d. Four 2-gallon safety cans of MEK, alcohol, solvent, and oxygen system cleaning fluid are also in the metal cabinet. The safety can of alcohol has the flame arrestor screen missing. A screen should be procured to reduce the fire hazard.

29. The runway was inspected, and no safety hazards were observed. A 50 or 75 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher on a portable wheel carrier is located at each end of the airstrip. The next inspections of these extinguishers are due August and December 1972.

30. Three 5,000-gallon fuel trucks and a 500-gallon tank on a trailer are parked on an isolated asphalt slab on the lower

**SECRET**

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Base within sight of a guardpost. The tank is marked "GAS GRADE 100/300 FLAMMABLE - NO SMOKING WITHIN 50 FEET," and the trucks are marked "FUEL JP4 - NO SMOKING WITHIN 50 FEET" and "AVGAS FLAMMABLE - NO SMOKING WITHIN 50 FEET." Two trucks have two 15 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguishers mounted on brackets, and one has a 15 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher and a 2-gallon bromochloromethene fire extinguisher mounted on brackets. The tank and trucks are properly grounded, and each truck has its wheels chocked and the hand-brake set.

- a. The 15 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher on truck 59L569 has a hose that is badly cracked and should be replaced.
- b. The rubber grasping portion of the nozzle should be replaced on one of the 15 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguishers on truck 62L326.
- c. The bromochloromethene fire extinguisher should be replaced with a 15 lb CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher. Bromochloromethene is a vaporizing liquid with toxic properties and is not as effective as the CO<sub>2</sub>.

### CONCLUSION

1. The over-all safety program of the North Base is considered very good. Further, the attitude of the employees in this regard is considered excellent.
2. The recommendations in this report were discussed at a meeting recorded on tape with the Commanding Officer, Deputy Commanding Officer, Directors of the Operational and Support Services, and the Flight and Ground Safety Officers. During the same meeting these individuals were also briefed on the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, Executive Order 11612, and safety standards promulgated by the Secretary of Labor under his authority in Section 6 of the Act. The Commanding Officer advised that action would be taken immediately to correct the fire and safety hazards.

**SECRET**

NORTH BASE BUILDINGS

Number

4303	Compressed Air
4305	Hangar 3
4306	Boiler, Hangar 3
4307	Bulk Supplies and Equipment
4318	Motor Pool Maintenance Shop
4400	Supply Warehouse
4401	Hangar 2 1/2
4402	Hangar 2
4410	Liquid Oxygen Storage
4412	Liquid Oxygen Repair
4444	Communications Transmitter Site
4463	Cafeteria
4490	Guard Traffic Check House
4493	Gymnasium
4495	Guard Traffic Check House
4496	Security Building
4503	Water Tank
4505	Hangar 1
4506	Administration
4507	Flammable Liquid
4508	Guard Tower
4515	Fuel Laboratory

## ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

**FROM:**  
 Deputy Director of Security (PTOS)  
 4E70 Headquarters

EXTENSION

NO.

DATE  
 14 JUN 1972

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1. D/SA/DDS&T  
 1 B06 Tyler

2.

*EO/SA*

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

11.

12.

13.

14.

15.

*WB*

*Jue*

Norma: Please send a copy of this to [ ] with a note from me "advise Hqs when items noted in this safety survey have been satisfactorily completed with [ ] 15 June

25X1

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

14 JUN 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Special Activities, DD/S&T

SUBJECT : Fire and Safety Survey Report  
OSA Classified Facility

[Redacted]

25X1A

1. The attached fire and safety survey report is submitted for your information and action. The recommendations were discussed with the Chief and Deputy Chief of the OSA Facility.

2. Kindly convey my appreciation to the Commanding Officer, Deputy Commanding Officer, and Security Officer of the OSA Facility for their excellent cooperation and support of the Safety Officer during the inspection.

[Redacted]

25X1A

Deputy Director of Security (PTOS)

Att

cc: C/SS/OSA

**SECRET**

